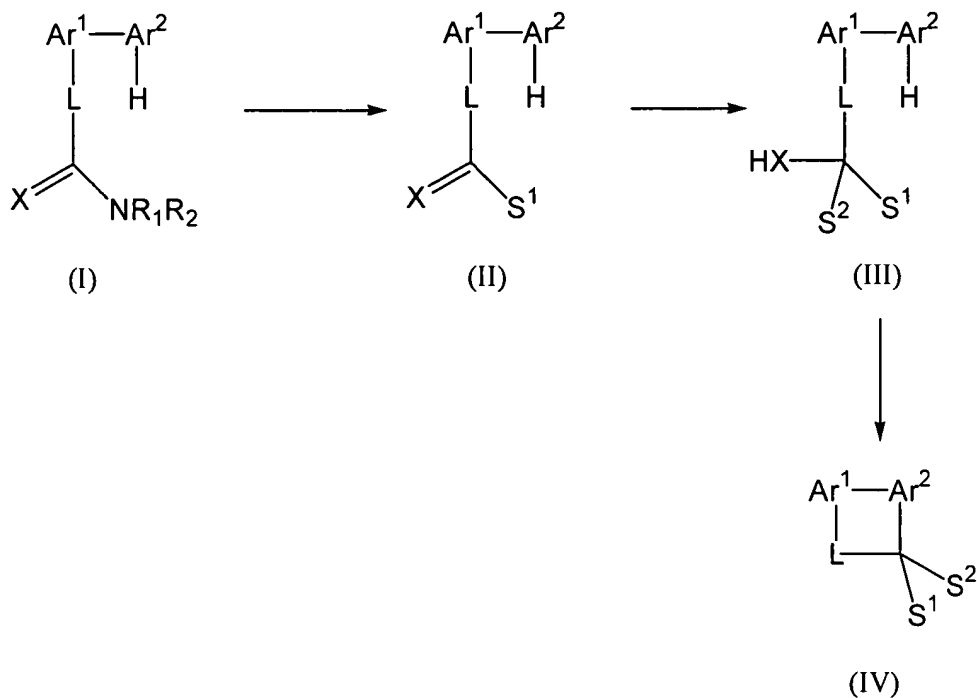


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method of forming a compound of formula (IV):



said method comprising the steps of:

- reacting a compound of formula (I) with a compound of formula S^1-M to give a compound of formula (II);
- reacting the compound of formula (II) with a compound of formula S^2-M to give a compound of formula (III); and
- eliminating H_2X from the compound of formula (III) to give a compound of formula (IV).

wherein

Ar^1 and Ar^2 are independently selected from optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl groups;

X is selected from O , S , NH and NR O , S , NH or NR ;

L is a bond or a linking group of 1-2 atoms,

~~R and R¹~~ R and R₁ are independently selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted alkyl, aryl, alkylaryl, arylalkyl and heteroaryl groups;

~~R² is selected~~ R₂ is selected from the group consisting of alkoxy, aryloxy, arylalkyloxy, alkylaryloxy, alkylthio, arylthio, alkylarylthio and arylalkylthio;

H is bound to a carbon atom C' of Ar²;

C' and the carbon atom of C=X are separated by 3-5 atoms;

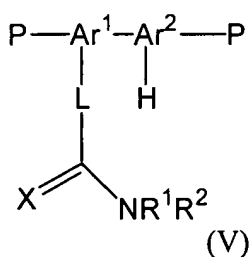
S¹ and S² are each ~~selected from~~ optionally substituted alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl groups,

M comprises a metal; and

M is linked to S¹ and S² by a carbon-metal bond.

2. (Original) A method according to claim 1 wherein alkyl is C₁-C₂₀-alkyl, arylalkyl is C₇-C₂₀-arylalkyl, alkylaryl is C₇-C₂₀-alkylaryl, aryl is C₆-C₂₀-aryl, heteroaryl is C₅-C₂₀-heteroaryl, alkoxy is C₁-C₂₀-alkoxy, aryloxy is C₆-C₂₀-Aryloxy, arylalkyloxy is C₇-C₂₀-arylalkyloxy, alkylaryloxy is C₇-C₂₀-alkylaryloxy, alkylthio is C₁-C₂₀-alkylthio, arylthio is C₆-C₂₀-arylthio, alkylarylthio is C₇-C₂₀-alkylarylthio, arylalkylthio is C₇-C₂₀-arylalkylthio.
3. (Original) A method according to claim 1 wherein Ar¹ and Ar² are phenyl or substituted phenyl.
4. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~claim 1 or 2~~ wherein X is O or S.
5. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~any preceding claim~~ wherein L is a bond.
6. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~any preceding claim~~ wherein R is C₁-10 alkyl.
7. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~any preceding claim~~ wherein R¹ is C₁-10 alkyl.
8. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~any preceding claim~~ wherein R² is C₁-10 alkoxy.

9. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~any preceding claim~~ wherein M is lithium, zinc or Mg-Hal wherein Hal is a halide.
10. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~any preceding claim~~ wherein S¹ and S² are independently selected from optionally substituted aryl or alkyl.
11. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~any preceding claim~~ wherein S¹ and S² are independently selected from optionally substituted aryl or alkyl and S¹ and S² are different ~~are different~~ from each other.
12. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~any preceding claim~~ wherein Ar¹ and Ar² of the compound of formula (I) are each substituted with a polymerisable group P.
13. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~any one of claims 1-10~~ comprising the further step of providing each of Ar¹ and Ar² of the compound of formula (II), (III) or (IV) with a polymerisable group P.
14. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 12, ~~claim 12 or 13~~ wherein each polymerisable group P is independently ~~selected from~~ a halide or a boron derivative group selected from a boronic acid group, a boronic ester group and a borane group; or a moiety of formula -O-SO₂-Z wherein Z is selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted alkyl and aryl.
15. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 12 ~~or 13~~ wherein each polymerisable group P is independently a leaving group capable of participating in a polycondensation reaction ~~reaction, more preferably a metal insertion reaction with a nickel or palladium complex catalyst.~~
16. (Currently amended) A compound of formula (V):



wherein

P, Ar¹, Ar², L, X, R¹ and R² are as defined in claim 1, ~~any one of claims 1-14~~;

H is bound to a carbon atom C' of Ar²; and

C' and the carbon atom of C=X are separated by 3-5 atoms.

17. (Original) A compound according to claim 16 wherein each Ar¹ and Ar² is phenyl or substituted phenyl.

18. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 16, ~~claim 16 or 17~~ wherein X is O or S.

19. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 16, ~~any one of claims 16-18~~ wherein L is a bond.

20. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 16, ~~any one of claims 16-19~~ wherein each P is independently selected from a halide or a boron derivative group selected from a boronic acid group, a boronic ester group and a borane group.

21. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 16, ~~any one of claims 16-20~~ wherein R¹ is C1-10 alkyl.

22. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim 16, ~~any one of claims 16-21~~ wherein R² is C1-10 alkoxy.

23. (Currently amended) An compound of formula (VI):

Ar¹ and Ar² are independently selected from optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl groups;

X is ~~selected from O, S, NH and NR~~ O, S, NH or NR;

L is a bond or a linking group of 1-2 atoms,

~~R and R¹~~ R and R₁ are independently selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted alkyl, aryl, alkylaryl, arylalkyl and heteroaryl groups;

~~R² is selected~~ R₂ is selected from the group consisting of alkoxy, aryloxy, arylalkyloxy, alkylaryloxy, alkylthio, arylthio, alkylarylthio and arylalkylthio;

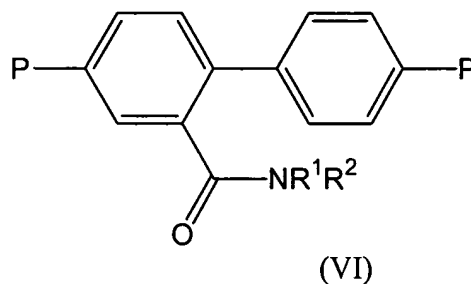
H is bound to a carbon atom C' of Ar²;

C' and the carbon atom of C=X are separated by 3-5 atoms;

S^1 and S^2 are each ~~selected from~~ optionally substituted alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl groups,

M comprises a metal; and

M is linked to S^1 and S^2 by a carbon-metal bond.



wherein

~~P is as defined in claim 14, R^1 is as defined in claim 7 and R^2 is as defined in claim 8~~

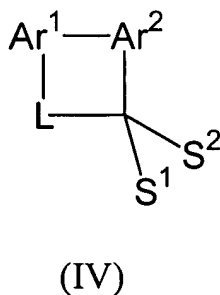
P is independently a halide or a boron derivative group selected from a boronic acid group, a boronic ester group and a borane group; or a moiety of formula $-O-SO_2-Z$ wherein Z is selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted alkyl and aryl

R^1 is C1-10 alkyl, and

R^2 is C1-10 alkoxy.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (New) A process to make the compounds of the formula (IV)

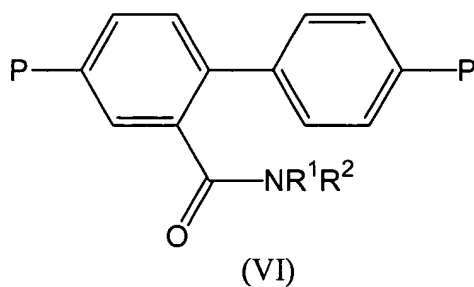
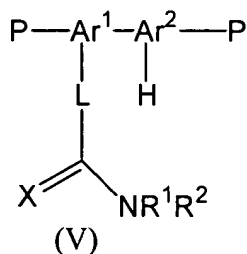


Ar^1 and Ar^2 are independently selected from optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl groups;

L is a bond or a linking group of 1-2 atoms,

S^1 and S^2 are each optionally substituted alkyl, aryl or heteroaryl groups,

which comprises using the compounds of formula (V) and/or (VI)



P is independently a halide or a boron derivative group selected from a boronic acid group, a boronic ester group and a borane group; or a moiety of formula $-O-SO_2-Z$ wherein Z is selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted alkyl and aryl

R^1 is C1-10 alkyl, and

R^2 is C1-10 alkoxy,

Ar^1 , Ar^2 , and L are defined above,

X is O, S, NH or NR,

H is bound to a carbon atom C' of Ar^2 ; and

C' and the carbon atom of $C=X$ are separated by 3-5 atoms

26. (New) A method according to claim 1 wherein

Ar¹ and Ar² are phenyl or substituted phenyl,

X is O or S,

L is a bond,

R is C1-10 alkyl,

R¹ is C1-10 alkyl,

R² is C1-10 alkoxy,

M is lithium, zinc or Mg-Hal wherein Hal is a halide,

S¹ and S² are independently selected from optionally substituted aryl or alkyl and S¹ and S² are different from each other.